

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following claims.

--85. (New) The reagent of Claim 21, wherein said reagent is thrombomodulin or recombinant thrombomodulin.

86. (New) The reagent of Claim 21, wherein said one or more metals is at least one member selected from the group consisting of cerium, praseodymium, neodymium, promethium, samarium, europium, gadolinium, terbium, dysprosium, holmium, erbium, thulium, ytterbium, and lutetium.

87. (New) The reagent of Claim 86, wherein said reagent is thrombomodulin or recombinant thrombomodulin.--

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT

Support for the additional claims is found at page 7, lines 24-29, and page 10 lines 22-24, of the specification. No new matter is believed to be introduced by the above amendment.

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants thank Examiner Gitomer for the helpful discussion of the present application held on March 12, 2003, providing clarification of his confusion regarding the claimed invention. During this discussion, the Examiner specified that he did not understand from where Applicants were obtaining support for the claimed reagents. Further, the Examiner indicated that the number of metals possible, in combination with the enormous number of reagents possible, would be impossible to search at one time.